A.J. Ciulla Henrietta

Topfree are courageous

FOR centuries women have struggled to change the status quo which kept them silenced and under the economic, political and social dominion of men.

As Americans, women have been allowed to vote only since 1920!

Whenever women have challenged "the powers that be," they have been depicted and therefore scorned as being masculine, ugly and mean.

Some people, when threatened, seem to need to dehumanize those who make them feel so frightened.

The political cartoon of July 2 in the *Democrat and Chronicle* is a good example of this reaction. I felt disheartened my hometown newspaper would print such an outdated, mean-spirited stereotype of some courageous women this town is lucky to have as citizens.

Michele Mandina Rochester

D+C July 15 '89